

# *The Limbaugh Letter*





## The Limbaugh Letter

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Subscription: \$29.95 per year

1-800-457-4141

Second Class postage paid  
at New York, NY and  
additional mailing offices.

Send correspondence to

### The Limbaugh Letter

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New York, NY 10121

Show Line: 1-800-282-2882

Fax: 1-212-563-9166

Comment Line:

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Rush's CompuServe number

70277,2502

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes for

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For back issues of

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(\$3.00

per issue), or customer service

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### The Limbaugh Letter

P.O. Box 420058

Palm Coast, FL 32142-0058

1-800-829-5386

(ISSN 1065-0377) Vol. 3, No. 8,  
August, 1994. **The Limbaugh  
Letter** © 1994 is published  
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**THE LIMBAUGH LETTER**

## Dedicated to Preserving My Wisdom for the Ages

### "Dittos, Rush"

From across the fruited plain

Hi, my name is Sarah, and I am 12. For the past two years I have either been watching your television show, listening to your radio show, or reading **The Limbaugh Letter**. Everything you say cracks me up, the reason being that everything you say is 100 percent, no questions asked, undoubtedly, undeniably true. I also wanted to tell you that on the Pop Quiz in your June issue, I got all of them correct without any assistance at all. Keep up the good work and stay cool.

— SARAH DUGAN, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL

*I will, Sarah! I'm delighted that as a young skull full of mush you are 100 percent, no questions asked, undoubtedly, undeniably on the right track in life.*

I love your letter and look forward to receiving it every month. I was especially touched in the June issue with your "D-Day: The Power of American Courage." I'm 27, and until reading this, I always thought of June 6, 1944 as just another piece of history. As the tears flooded down my face I realized that had it not been for the sheer bravery of these American boys, our world might have been a very different place. All too often we take for granted the one precious human right that made this country great: freedom.

— JANINE N. DUFF, LOS ANGELES, CA

*Thank you for your kind words, Janine. And you are right: the freedom we enjoy was paid for by those soldiers' courage.*

U.S. Navy dittos! I just finished your fantastic June issue (fear not, it's not a bootleg copy, I paid for it) and was moved by "A Tribute to My Father" and the piece on D-Day. My dad served during WWII on board the *USS Missouri*. He was a First Class Gunners Mate and also witnessed the Japanese surrender ceremony. God, I miss him. Rush, you reach into my mind and articulate my thoughts better than I ever could. It's a relief to finally hear and read ideas which I had started to believe had died. It's also a relief to finally realize that people who hold the same values as I do are all around me.

— MICHAEL WILLIS, CHIEF HOSPITAL CORPSMAN,

U.S. NAVY, NAVAL AIR STATION, KINGSVILLE, TX

*Welcome aboard, Michael. Yes, we are winning! A fact that is causing the left enormous heartburn.*

I must admit to being merely the wife of a conservative. On occasion, however, you might find me perusing **The Limbaugh Letter**. Today I picked up the June issue. About halfway through "D-Day," I had to pause to get a tissue ("I must

be getting a cold," I thought). About three-quarters through, I reached for that tissue again ("It must be allergies"). As I read the last paragraph, I admit to outright sobbing; I had no idea what the hubbub about the Normandy invasion was all about until I read the article. I wish I knew a way to show my gratitude to the Normandy soldiers who fought and gave dearly for our freedom. How do I keep their memory alive?

— BETH E. COURTNEY, MANCHESTER, CT

*You have taken the first step, Beth — your new knowledge makes their memory part of you.*

As a confirmed dittohead, I want to congratulate you for the outstanding article in the June issue concerning D-Day. As a member of the post-WWII generation, with my father and uncles fighting and surviving WWII, I am thankful and proud of their contribution. The article was very touching and well done. As owner of two small companies, I am certainly a product of the "greedy" 80s. Thank you for not only the entertainment and information, but for providing a forum for the views of a large percentage of the population.

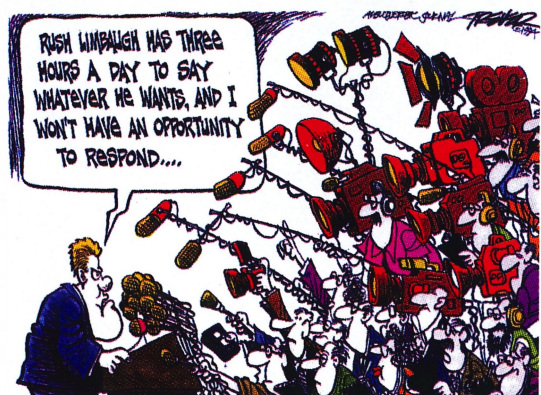
— TOM L. COX, MARIETTA, GA

*Thanks! As a small business owner you, sir, are under assault — and I'm proud to support those like you who are the country's economic backbone.*

Rush, one of your most endearing qualities is your respect and love for the World War II generation. I am one of them, so your concern for what we accomplished further enhances my convictions about your qualifications as the spokesman for millions of thinking Americans. I was not in Normandy 50 years ago, but I was in Italy for many long months. Two of my high school friends were in the invasion. Both were killed, so there is a deep personal meaning to the 50th anniversary of D-Day. Thanks so much for remembering all of us in this wonderful issue of **The Limbaugh Letter**. You have written of those times so eloquently. Almost as though you were there.

— JACK KIRKWOOD, LA QUINTA, CA

*I learned the great lessons of D-Day from my parents and those like you in their generation. Thank you.*



ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL — JOHN TREVER



# The Truth About Health Care

Greetings, fellow analysts. As your Sir Galahad, your knight in shining armor, I am once again at your service in the noble quest for Truth — the relentless pursuit of which is, of course, my mission.

As such, the gauntlet has been thrown down by the President of the United States, who claims I need a “truth detector.” Here’s what he told St. Louis radio station KMOX in a phone interview from aboard Air Force One:

After I get off the radio today with you, Rush Limbaugh will have three hours to say whatever he wants. I won’t have any opportunity to respond, and there’s no truth detector. You won’t get on afterwards and say what was true and what wasn’t. I’m going to be far more aggressive because the American people are entitled to know what’s going on good in this country. So I decided instead of being frustrated I needed to be aggressive and I’m going to be aggressive from here on in. I’m going to tell what I know the truth to be.

No truth detector? Wrong-o, Mr. Clinton. I *am* the truth detector. I must say, however, it is refreshing that you’ve decided to tell the truth from here on in. Or, rather, what you “know the truth to be” — which may well be quite a different thing.

Let me point out that I can’t call a press conference and have scores of press people from all over the world show up, as the President can. I have no power whatsoever when it comes to policy implementation. So what does Bill Clinton need to be “far more aggressive” about? Clearly, something this Administration didn’t count on is happening due to talk radio in America — and the Rush Limbaugh program in particular — to throw a monkey wrench into the Clinton health care works.

Contrary to the primary aims of the mainstream media, I am not interested in anything *but* the truth. The press is

not giving you the truth about health care — witness the recent health-care show on NBC, which was a two-hour commercial for the Clinton plan. Why didn’t the esteemed journalists at NBC instead call the Clinton health care plan “the Clinton health care takeover plan”? That’s what universal health coverage is.

**T**he truth is, the mainstream press has given this Administration a lot of support for its plan, and by support I mean the media is not exposing what’s actually in it. But that’s fine. Because, my friends, I am perfectly willing to expose what’s actually in it. And the more the American people find out what’s actually in Clinton’s plan, the less they like it.

At this writing, in a desperate attempt to stem the hemorrhaging of public support for the Administration’s plan, the White House is gearing up an extravaganza of ... buses. They are hitting the campaign bus trail, folks. The Clintons, the Gores and some of their Hollywood pals are taking several bus caravans to converge in D.C. on August 1, when health care legislation is scheduled to reach the floor of the House and Senate. Believe it or not, the Clintons expect that the vast throngs of citizens lining up to cheer on the caravans (organized by unions, “consumer groups” and other Clinton supporters) will so impress Congress that legislators will be thrilled to pass some version of the President’s proposal.

I’ll tell you what this means. The Administration is down to the wire on health care, and they’re pulling out all the stops. The Clintons know they must get health care legislation passed this year, or chances are they may not get anything they want at all. With significant Democratic Congressional losses looming in the fall midterm elections, it is do or die this summer. Though they’ve used this line about nearly every vote, from their view a victory really is critical this time “to save the Clinton presidency.” Health care *is* their Administration.

This, my friends, is legislation by calendar. It’s the worst partisan political reason to enact a plan so revolutionary, so sweeping, that it puts one-seventh of the

U.S. economy under Federal control. Republicans are constantly accused of the most craven political motivation for everything they say or do. The truth is, it is Democrats who are attempting to muscle through genuinely radical legislation simply to beat the election-day clock. The Senate Finance Committee recently voted out of committee a piece of legislation without a single Senator seeing the actual language in the bill. This, in a nutshell, is the politics of health care. As I’ve told you many times, Clinton’s push for health care reform has nothing to do with health care and everything to do with political power.

So citizens must be vigilant. You may see by the polls that support for the Clinton plan has evaporated, but do not assume that in the final analysis this will sway Congress in the least. This bunch is adept at back-room deals, horse-trading and stealth; if the public becomes complacent, odds are we will be saddled with a disastrous piece of legislation whose damage will take years to undo ... it if can be undone at all.

This Administration’s goal is universal coverage; they’re not going to cave on that. This has been their objective since day one. “We did not come here to go halfway,” said Democratic National Chairman David Wilhelm recently, spouting the White House line. “We came here to provide universal coverage.”

How do they get there? By the employer mandate. Clinton would force employers to pay 80 percent of their employees’ health care costs. Make no mistake, folks — even if legislation doesn’t call for a mandate immediately, but puts it off until the year 2002 or 2004, and even if the mandate is disguised by the vagaries of “hard triggers”

*continued*



or "soft triggers," a mandate is a tax.

The Administration claims it's not a tax increase. When business is forced to cough up the money, Washington can say, "It's not money we collected; it's not money we spent." But with a mandate, Washington is still taking disposable income from businesses and dictating how it will be spent. (Republicans on the

**The First Lady says the U.S. has the best health care in the world — but she adds: "We have the stupidest way to finance it in the world." She believes, in the core of her cattle futures being, that the government can devise the smartest way to finance it. There is no evidence for her belief.**

Joint Economic Committee released an analysis of 41 independent studies of the Clinton plan that concludes between 600,000 and 3 million jobs would be lost because of the employer mandate.)

Let's take a look at "universal coverage" with an employer mandate right here in the U.S. Yes, folks, there already is in this country a shining example of what happens when the government decrees: There must be universal coverage. And the lessons are so stunning, so irrefutable, that after you read this you may be puzzled as to why the mainstream press hasn't informed you about this model state.

Let's go to Hawaii. A pleasant prospect — unless you are a small business.

Aloha. The year is 1974, and 90 percent of Hawaiian employees have health care coverage through their employers. That's not good enough, decides the benevolent state government. We must have universal coverage. So the Hawaii state legislature enacts something called the Prepaid Health Care Act (PHCA),

whose foundation is mandated employer-provided health insurance. Employers are required to provide benefits equal to or exceeding a state-defined package for employees working over 20 hours a week. Employees can contribute no more than 1.5 percent of their monthly salary.

Initially, the system seemed successful. Many businesses provided their employees excellent coverage, going beyond what the law required. But guess what happened each time the Hawaii state legislature met? New benefits were mandated. First, substance abuse was added to the "minimum" required coverage, and businesses had to pay psychologists as well as doctors. Then the state decided that everyone in Hawaii had the "right" to procedures like in-vitro fertilization. Can you believe it! Every kind of New-Age herbal healer wanted to get on the government-mandated provider payroll.

Surprise, surprise: the result was yearly double-digit increases in medical premium costs. Businesses responded by cutting budgets, slowing down expansion plans, freezing wages. The legislature "just wanted to help" employees by increasing state mandates, but it has been the employees who have suffered most. Many now receive *less* health care benefits than they did before.

Says Teena Rasmussen of Maui, who employs 17 as owner with her husband of Paradise Flower Farms, a producer of lei flowers: "We are at a point in our business that we will do anything to avoid hiring one more person — not for lack of need, but because we cannot afford them." After 20 years, she says, the system in Hawaii is breaking down.

Dr. John Lewin, Hawaii's health director, claims his state's policy is wonderful. But curiously, the state has a different set of rules for *its* employees. Shocking! The government exempted itself from the law! State employees can be charged up to 40 percent of premiums; employees can be hired and fired every 30 days so the state can avoid paying any medical premiums at all. Why? The state government complains that if they had to cover all these people, it would be "an undue burden to the state budget." Well, no kidding.

The worst thing is, folks — not only has the universal coverage mandate hurt business, frozen wages, hampered economic expansion and *reduced* health benefits overall, current statistics show that *up to 11 percent of Hawaiians are still*

*without health insurance.* All this economic pain and suffering and hardship, and *it didn't even work!* Hawaii's plan has not slowed cost increases or per capita spending. Between 1980 and 1990, total health care spending in Hawaii rose *191 percent*, compared to the national average of 163 percent.

**T**he state's "solution"? The same solution that's always tried when government tinkering leads to bad unintended consequences: more government tinkering. Which will, I guarantee you, lead to even more government tinkering. In 1989, to cover this 11 percent gap, the Hawaiian legislature enacted the State Health Insurance Program of Hawaii (SHIP). But it, too, has failed to eliminate uninsured Hawaiian residents, whose number remains at 3 to 7 percent (many estimate the percentage may be higher.) For failing to significantly expand coverage, SHIP costs an additional \$10 million a year.

Here are the real costs of the mandate: According to a 1993 Kaiser Foundation study: 40 percent of Hawaiian employers had to reduce the number of employees; 10 percent hired part-time workers instead of full-time to avoid paying their health insurance; 55 percent restricted wage increases; 33 percent reduced employee benefits; 60 percent raised prices. "We have cut our budgets to a bare minimum," says Teena Rasmussen. "The only place left to cut is wages and jobs."

*Someone should get this information to Congress before a terrible mistake is made,* you say. Friends, Congress already has the information. I have taken it directly from testimony before the House Committee on Agriculture in March of this year.

The truth is — and this is not just a philosophical point; it is also a practical one — universal coverage is unattainable. The Clintons know this — so even they now define "universal" as 92 or 95 percent. As the world has discovered, attempts to achieve universal coverage result in lower standards of care for all.

The First Lady concedes that the U.S. has the best health care in the world — but she always adds: "We have the stupidest way to finance it in the world." She actually believes, in the core of her cattle futures being, that the government can come up with the smartest way to

*continued on page 15*



# WHO ARE THESE People?

The Limbaugh Profile

## The National Education Association

**O**n July 4, the National Education Association took a short break from oppressing public schools and tried to put the screws on me. At its annual convention, the NEA voted to boycott Florida orange juice. How's that for educational reform? One delegate proposed instead that NEA President Keith Geiger merely ask the Florida Department of Citrus not to renew my advertising contract in a letter expressing "concern." The motion was rejected — and it's a good thing. Given the state of education today, who at the convention could have spelled it?

The NEA also condemned *Forbes* magazine, which last year published a brilliant exposé titled: "The National Extortion Association." *Forbes* called the NEA "the worm in the American education apple," pointing out that the union's activity in the last 30 years exactly coincides with skyrocketing costs and deteriorating education. (In 1963, with less than 1 percent of teachers as union members, SAT scores were 80 points higher than they are now, with union-member teachers at nearly 80 percent; in that period, real spending per pupil has *quintupled*.)

These annual meetings are full of fun for the NEA. At the 1991 convention, it called on members to monitor attacks on freedom of speech — while ousting the Boy Scouts from the convention exhibit hall and prohibiting delegates from displaying anti-abortion material. Geiger called this contradiction a *paradox*. "I don't apologize for it," he said. "I don't try to explain it."

As is my wont (look it up, you in the NEA), I shine the light of truth on this little outfit.

- With 2.2 million members and a staff of 553, the NEA has surpassed the Teamsters to become the country's biggest and most powerful trade union. (It is dwarfed, of course, by my 20-million-plus EIB audience)
- The NEA constitutes the Democratic Party's largest lobby (it has sent the greatest single bloc of delegates to Democratic conventions since '76)
- Its 52 state-level affiliates and 13,000 local-level affiliates are tightly controlled from its palatial Washington headquarters
- Total dues collected throughout the union structure are estimated by *Forbes* at an astounding \$750 million per year
- The NEA receives 30 percent of the premiums — \$10 million a year — members pay for NEA-marketed Prudential life insurance. Some cut!
- The NEA is run by a "Michigan mafia," Keith Geiger (President), Don Cameron (Executive Director) and Terry Herndon (now heading the Wisconsin affiliate's insurance arm). These guys began their NEA careers importing aggressive labor union methods into Michigan schools. (The NEA has displaced the United Auto Workers as the principal power in Michigan politics.) Geiger rakes in \$214,000 a year; Cameron, \$180,000.

The NEA's Representative Assembly has gone on record **in favor of**: teacher strikes; school-based clinics dispensing contraceptives and other sex services (without informing parents); AIDS education; school counseling for students "struggling with their sexual/gender orientation"; D.C.

statehood; gays in the military; a single-payer national health care plan; Carter, Mondale, Dukakis, and Clinton.

The NEA has gone on record **against**: merit pay for teachers; parental choice; voluntary school prayer; home schooling; English as the official language; drug, alcohol, and AIDS testing; nuclear power plants; the nomination of Judge Bork to the Supreme Court; Reagan and Bush.

With the NEA, as former Secretary of Education Bill Bennett says, "you're looking at the absolute heart and center of the Democratic Party." Clinton got in bed with this group early in his candidacy. As he told the

NEA in December 1991: "If I become President, you'll be my partners. I won't forget who brought me to the White House."

So what do these people want? In 1978 then-Executive Director Terry Herndon said: "The ultimate goal of the NEA is to tap the legal, political, and economic powers of the U.S. Congress. We want leaders and staff with sufficient clout that they may roam the halls of Congress and collect votes to re-order the priorities of the United States of America." In 1982 then-President Mary Futrell stated: "Instruction and professional development have been on the back burner to us, compared to political action."

No kidding. The result? Students are held hostage by a stifling bureaucracy that is so busy with its little social causes it has no time to bother about educating kids. It doesn't

want you to know this, though — the NEA, not the "religious right," is the most skilled stealth operation in American politics.

**H**igh on the NEA's enemies' list (right up there with me) are parents. Why? Because parents want higher standards, more competition, greater achievement — ideas this bunch loathes. The truth is, the NEA *knows* it is holding the public hostage. Why else would it so detest school choice? The NEA realizes that, if given a choice, few would choose their idea of education. "There are some proposals that are so evil that they should never even be presented to the voters," said NEA-affiliated California Teachers Association President D.A. Weber on that state's school-choice initiative — a comment *Forbes* called "frankly totalitarian." So the NEA has poured millions — and its immense political resources — into state after state to beat back the school-choice and school-voucher proposals that keep popping up all over the place. So far, the big money and muscle have won. But let me tell you guys in the NEA: school choice is going to happen.

It is already happening within the NEA itself. A full 22 percent of NEA teachers — *twice the national average* — choose to put their own children in private schools. Not exactly a vote of confidence, Mr. Geiger.

So I say, let the NEA boycott; let them vote on their silly little social-engineering resolutions. Their time has passed. Their ideas don't work. They don't know it yet, but their power is gone. The era of Limbaugh is just beginning. ■



ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE SHELTON FOR THE LIMBAUGH LETTER



# WILLIAM KRISTOL

*It was my privilege to speak with one of the Republican Party's premier strategists. Former Chief of Staff to Dan Quayle, Bill Kristol is now Chairman of the Project for the Republican Future, and one of the GOP's brightest lights:*



© GERRY LINMAN

**Rush:** Bill, we're at the political stage of health care now. So put on your prognosticator cap. You're Bill Kristol, psychic. Where are we now in the so-called health care reform debate in Congress, and what can people expect in the coming weeks?

**Kristol:** The good news is, the massive Clinton offensive has been gradually stalling over the last three or four months. The bad news is, they haven't been decisively thrown back yet. So we're at a tipping point. Committees in both houses have reported out legislation that the Democratic leadership will meld together, and they'll bring something to the floor.

**Rush:** There will be a bill.

**Kristol:** In at least one house, and probably in both. There will be a Clinton-lite-style bill. And those of us who think that would be bad for the country need to rally the country to defeat that bill on the floor.

**Rush:** Do you need an alternative bill, or can you vote this one down and get no bill?

**Kristol:** We do have a good alternative bill, the one Sen. Dole introduced with the support of 40 Republicans.

**Rush:** *The New York Times* today and other papers did an entire full page of, "Here's where we are, here are the four bills." Not one mention of Dole's bill. I was stunned.

**Kristol:** Shocking that *The Times* might neglect a sensible conservative alternative.

**Rush:** But there are five bills. There aren't four. And Dole's got more support for his bill in the Senate than any of these other bills. His just hasn't gone through the committee process.

**Kristol:** Right, and since the Democrats control the committee process, he can't get his bill reported out. That gives *The New York Times* an excuse to pretend it doesn't exist. And they're going to try to label those of us who are opposed to Clinton-style reform as obstructionists, as negative.

**Rush:** They're going to say we're against health care.

**Kristol:** Right. We need to make clear we are for sensible reform. We also need to be willing to say that no bill is better than a bad

bill; that Clinton's type of reform would damage our health care system; and that we can live with our current system for a year or two, if that's what we need to do before passing sensible reforms.

**Rush:** Do you think Clinton will get a version of his bill passed? Because so much of his Administration is tied to this thing, I can't imagine him not getting a bill. When it gets down to it, can they actually go into the November elections without having a bill? It could be a bill that raises spending ten cents and call it a health care reform act.

**Kristol:** There's an idea. That would do a lot less damage to the country. I think all the talk about

hanging tough, and Hillary insisting on universal coverage, is a bluff. They'll take whatever they can get. Their Administration is collapsing. They desperately need to be able to say they've won a victory on health care. A lot of our people are too complacent in assuming that Hillary will refuse to compromise, or that the Democratic leadership won't be able to hold its own members. I think they'll make a desperate effort to get something through to save the sinking ship of liberalism and the sinking ship of this Administration.

**Rush:** But they can literally come up with anything, call it the Health Care Reform Act of 1994. The President is good at this, going to the Rose Garden: "We have ended gridlock, no president in 60 years has ever done this — we would have had a lot more if it weren't for the Republicans." Is there real political ground to be gained in November and beyond, by seeing to it there is no bill?

**Kristol:** Yes. Our position has to be, first of all, the substantively sound position that there are sensible reforms we would like to see passed. But we also need to be willing to see no bill at all passed if the choice is between a bad bill and no bill. I think the Administration will become increasingly desperate for any bill. Their

problem is, they've made such a fuss about universal coverage that it'll be hard for them to accept, say, Bob Dole's bill. They may do that at the end of the day, and we should take credit for it. The President won't get much credit. Americans aren't stupid. If he has to fold and pass Bob Dole's bill, people will see it's a Republican bill.

In 1978 the Carter Administration's economic plan fell apart, and Congress passed Congressman Steiger's capital gains tax cut for small businesses. It was the right thing to do for the country — it helped small business formation — and no one gave Carter a lot of credit for it. So if Dole's bill passes, Dole gets the credit, and he'll deserve it. The real danger is a phony compromise, a Clinton lite, Clinton very lite, Clinton super lite, that they use their muscle in the back rooms of Congress to get something through.

**Rush:** They have to promise universal coverage down the road.

**Kristol:** Right. Clinton has to be able to say this is a step along that road, which is why Republicans must say the road is wrong. We can't just say, That's too big a step. We need to make the case more effectively than we have that it's the wrong road.



**Rush:** You're running seminars to help define what the Republican future ought to be, and you're in contact with the people you're talking about here. Is there sentiment on the Hill for standing up and saying, We're not going to have any part of this?

**Kristol:** There's certainly sentiment in the country for it. I think there's sentiment on the Hill. But too many on the Hill read *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*, and get nervous when *The Times* harumphs about obstructionism and *The Post* whines about "negative" Republicans. The task is to strengthen the spine and bolster the spirit of Republicans to do the right thing.

**Rush:** Dole has done a momentous thing by introducing his bill. What Republicans besides Dole, and probably Gingrich, are willing to stand with this group, who people could encourage?

**Kristol:** Actually, I think Bob Dole could hold the great majority of Republicans at this stage. There are other Republicans, like Phil Gramm and Dick Armey, who've done yeoman work making the intellectual case against any Clinton-type program. But to defeat the bill we need more than Republicans. We need Democrats. The key decision-makers will be the moderate Democrats, who are nervous about voting with Clinton — but also nervous about voting against Clinton. The task is to make them more nervous about voting with Clinton than against him. They've got to be convinced that Americans understand that any version of a Clinton bill is a clear and present danger to the quality of our health care. Then moderate Democrats may have the courage to jump ship and resist the arm-twisting of the Democratic leadership.

**Rush:** Doesn't seem like it would take much. The Democrats have lost nine major elections since Clinton took office, and the closer they've tied themselves to him, the greater their margin of defeat.

**Kristol:** Yes, I think that's helped to concentrate their minds, and it's probably one of the strongest things we've got going for us. But you can't underestimate the power of the Congressional Democratic leadership when they start to twist arms and offer inducements. That's what really concerns me. Public opinion on this issue is sound. I think it is a tribute to the American people, given all the media disinformation and all the Clinton propaganda, that they have come to sensible views on this issue. They have resisted the propaganda, and they don't like the Clinton plan. They would like to go slow and get it right. But that doesn't necessarily translate to the political class in Washington. That's really the task over the next month. So my message would be, We can't count on the process to save us. Too many Republicans say confidently,

**Kristol: They will take whatever they can get. Their Administration is collapsing. They desperately need to be able to say that they've won a victory on health care.**

This committee is going to be a problem for them, or, This issue is going to be an obstacle. We're not going to be saved by committees or obstacles; we need to beat the Clinton Administration. That means having an aroused public, demanding that their Congressmen not vote for any Clinton-type health care plan.

**Rush:** You have just identified one of the major sources of irritation for concerned citizens in this country, that we're beyond the scope of public opinion. It's almost irrelevant. I think Americans are becoming more educated about how the political process really works. Jay Rockefeller epitomized this when said, "We're going to push through health care reform regardless of the views of the American people." But you still hold out hope that the force of public opinion can be brought to bear.

**Kristol:** I think it can. If elected officials think they'll pay a price for voting for a bad plan, they'll be inclined to put it off, or to vote against it. But it is not impossible, unfortunately, for the Clinton Administration to succeed in muscling something through. I don't mean to be pessimistic. I think we have a good chance to beat it. Now the main problem on our side is complacency, a sense that

somehow the system will prevent the worst from happening. Only the American people will prevent the worst from happening.

**Rush:** Hillary Clinton has been the most out-front Administration "non-official" talking about universal coverage. She's not giving an inch. Let's say the bill that comes to the floor does not contain enough toward universal coverage to give Mrs. Clinton political cover. What becomes of her political effectiveness?

**Kristol:** I think it decreases radically. I thought it was clever of Clinton to designate Hillary as his standard-bearer on health care, because you get all the advantages of the Oval Office, all the arm-twisting, all the rewards, all the threats that that office can dispense, which obviously Hillary can do on behalf of her husband. But you also get the cover of the First Lady, so she can't be attacked too directly; any attack on Hillary is an attack on American women. It's a tough combination for people to stand up to. Frankly, that whole shtick is wearing thin by now. People were too intimidated by her at first, and there was much too much oohing and aahing because she was able to testify on the Hill and put three sentences together.

**Rush:** Now to Republican unity. Republicans can unify on every proposed piece of legislation and still not defeat anything, because there aren't enough of them in either house, that with-out some Democratic defections, Bill Clinton can have everything he wants. Yet the Republicans are still termed the obstructionists. How important is Republican unity in the health care debate?

**Kristol:** It's probably necessary to defeating the Clinton plan, but as you say, it's not sufficient.

Too many Republicans are crowing about how united we are. It's better to be united than disunited — but it's even better to win, rather than lose. We should only regard Republican unity as a precondition to Repub-

lican victory, and that requires making the case to the American public so the pressure on moderate Democrats is sufficient that they come over to our side. That needs to be the focus in the next month or two.

**Rush:** I saw your seminar on C-SPAN regarding Perot. The Republican National Committee has now said, "Yeah, we'll take his million bucks and we'll produce a health care show on TV." How do you feel about Perot funding Republican activity?

**Kristol:** If he wants to be a donor to the RNC, I wouldn't turn away his money. But I don't really like the idea of his being the sole funder of a program on health care. If the RNC thinks it's important to put such programs on, and I think it is, they're a multi-million-dollar organization — they can afford to put it on with donations from others. Perot could be one of those donors. I don't like the idea of the RNC as the vehicle for something Perot thinks should be done. He's a very flawed messenger. The White House may be chortling: "Perot's going to be our opponent on



health care, just like on NAFTA." If I were them, I'd send Al Gore out to challenge Ross Perot to a debate.

**Rush:** What is this continuing fascination with Ross Perot? It seems that some people think there's magic in the Perot personality and that somehow we've either got to be like him, or get him for ourselves. And he's — I've got to be nice here, it's my publication — but this guy is a cup and saucer short of a full place-setting.

**Kristol:** Well said. There's much too much pandering to Perot in Washington, and among Republicans. It's as if you're the kid in high school who has trouble getting dates, and you think if you hang around the cool kid, girls will find you more attractive.

**Rush:** Good grief.

**Kristol:** A lot of Republicans think that if we hang around Perot, we can attract the Perot voters. The truth is, those voters will respond to a strong, aggressive, conservative reform message. So I'm against pandering to Perot. I don't think taking his money is necessarily pandering, but I worry about re-legitimizing him. I would be much more wary about supping with that particular devil than some of my Republican colleagues are.

**Rush:** It's as if the Republicans think, We've got nothing, we're going nowhere, we've got to latch onto the last thing that the American people were enthused about. I have a deep resentment for lack of confidence, and that seems what this adds up to. Because we're not confident, we're going to import something that was resoundingly defeated. He got fewer votes than we did.

**Kristol:** It's driving while looking in the rear-view mirror.

**Rush:** I have continually told people that the real thing to fear in the Clinton health care plan is the employer mandate, because it's a secret tax increase. It's the only way they can get a tax increase in today's climate, and that, then, is how you get to universal coverage. Would you say that universal coverage and the employer mandate are the absolute keys — if Clinton doesn't get those, he doesn't get anything in his plan?

**Kristol:** The employer mandate is the linchpin of getting universal coverage and it's the key to financing his plan. Yes, I think he needs some form of a mandate or a trigger to be able to claim universal coverage. And such a mandate, or tax, would be damaging to the economy. Equally to be feared is the rationing side of his plan. One way or another, universal coverage will mean universal rationing. The government is not going to spend an infinite amount of money on universal coverage. So once they decide to cover everyone, at some point they can decide to limit the kind of coverage everyone can get. Two key points need to be made: One, the Clinton health care plan will damage our economic well-being; and two, it will damage the quality of medical care, especially over the long run.

**Rush:** Because it's got price controls, and the first thing that goes is quality.

**Kristol:** Right. We take medical progress for granted. The fact is, health care in America is better today than it was 30 years ago. We all know people who are alive and flourishing because of medical progress who wouldn't have been a generation ago. That has come about because we've had a free market, we've had inducements for very intelligent people to become physicians, we've had inducements

to do research, develop new drugs. Other parts of American life have gotten worse in the last 30 years: schools, crime, cities, illegitimacy rates. It's unbelievable that Clinton wants to take one part of American life that has objectively improved over the last 30 years and subject it to radical overhaul. But when it comes to the parts of American life that really are in crisis — the welfare system, for example — he wants to tinker around the edges.

**Rush:** Universal coverage will equal, as we've redefined terms in this Administration, from 92 to 96 percent. Let's say universal coverage is 95 percent. Who are the 5 percent who won't be insured?

**Kristol:** Those refusing to get insurance.

**Rush:** I thought that we were going to make them get it.

**Kristol:** We make people get car insurance, but in some states 50 percent of drivers at any one time don't have car insurance.

**Rush:** So the American people are being sold universal coverage: it's a right, we're going to give it to you, yada, yada, yada. But sometime down the road it will be discovered that 15 percent of the people still don't have it. At what point do people realize there is no credibility in what Bill Clinton says?

**Kristol:** We're very close to that point. That's why he's had such trouble selling his plan, despite the fact that it's a promise of good things in the future, and you don't have to pay anything for it today. It's health security for everyone, and it responds to genuine anxieties in the middle class. But even beyond Clinton's personal lack of credibility, modern liberalism has no credibility. We've been promised many things over the last 30 years that haven't come to pass — indeed in some respects things have been made worse. A healthy skepticism in the American public has saved us so far from the Clinton plan.

**Rush:** Give us your thoughts on the '94 elections. How well will the Republicans do in the Congressional midterms?

**Kristol:** There's an opportunity for very big pickups if Republicans hang tough on health care and present the American people a strong conservative alternative to the failed policies of the Clinton Administration and the failed policies of establishment liberalism. What the American people want is leadership. They don't want someone who just studies focus groups and polls and adjusts his position to reflect whatever's popular. The key thing for Republicans to remember is that leadership will be rewarded; but leadership is risky. It requires courage. And risk-taking and courage are not in excessively plentiful supply here in Washington. So I am optimistic about the 1994 elections if Republicans are courageous. If we deserve to do well, I think we will do well. If we don't do well, it's probably our own fault.

**Rush:** Pleasure to talk to you.

**Kristol:** It's good talking to you. And I'm avoiding drinking all orange juice since the NEA, the educators of America, have instructed us of our moral duty to avoid it. It's nice that our schools are in such good shape that the NEA has time to worry about these things.

**Rush:** Isn't it? They're taking me out of the realm of talk radio and making me a political opponent.

**Kristol:** Right. Well, Clinton has already done that. You should be honored by the enemies you've made.

**Rush:** I am. I thank the Lord for them daily. ■

“  
Universal coverage  
will mean universal  
rationing. Once they  
decide to cover every-  
one, they can decide to  
limit the kind of cover-  
age everyone can get.  
”

— Bill Kristol



**"T**hese allegations should be laid to rest once and for all," said Speaker of the House Tom Foley and Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell in a joint statement. "We have no conclusive evidence of wrongdoing, but the seriousness of the allegations, and the weight of the circumstantial information, compel an effort to establish the facts." Too bad Foley and Mitchell were talking about the bogus "October Surprise" of the 1980 Reagan-Bush campaign — not about Whitewater.

You see, folks, upcoming Congressional hearings will be tightly restricted by the Democratic leadership. Under terms set out in the resolution offered by George Mitchell and passed by a party-line vote of 56-44 — in the Whitewater-Madison hearings, *senators will be precluded from asking questions about Whitewater or Madison!* So when you tune into C-SPAN this summer for gavel-to-gavel coverage, you won't hear these questions:

- Where are all the Whitewater and Madison financial records?
- Was there unethical or illegal conduct in connection with Madison Guaranty S&L, Whitewater Development Corp., Capital Management Services Inc., Ray E. Freidman & Co. (REFCO), and the Dan Lasater Company?
- Was Madison used to convert Clinton campaign funds for then-Governor Bill Clinton's personal use?
- Why was Hillary Clinton paid a monthly retainer by Madison?
- What was Hillary Clinton's law firm's relationship with Madison and state bank regulators?
- Why did the RTC wait so long before launching a formal investigation of Madison S&L, an institution which cost taxpayers \$50 million to bail out?
- Did a regulator appointed by Gov. Clinton go easy on Madison because it was owned by the Clintons' political ally, Jim McDougal, who was also the Clintons' business partner in Whitewater?
- Why didn't the Clintons pay the same amount for their "half" of Whitewater that Jim and Susan McDougal paid for theirs?
- How much did Hillary know in the early 1980s about the troubled business dealings of her Whitewater partner and sometime law client, Jim McDougal? And did she play a role in his efforts to bail himself out? Why do documents show that in 1983 Hillary helped mediate a dispute between McDougal and the Rose Law Firm?
- Were the Clintons more than passive shareholders in Whitewater?
- Exactly how much money did the Clintons and the McDougals lose in their Whitewater investments?
- Did then-Governor Clinton pressure David Hale into making a \$300,000 government-backed loan to Susan McDougal?
- Why are there so many discrepancies between the James Lyons' 1992 report

ALL

YOU

EVER

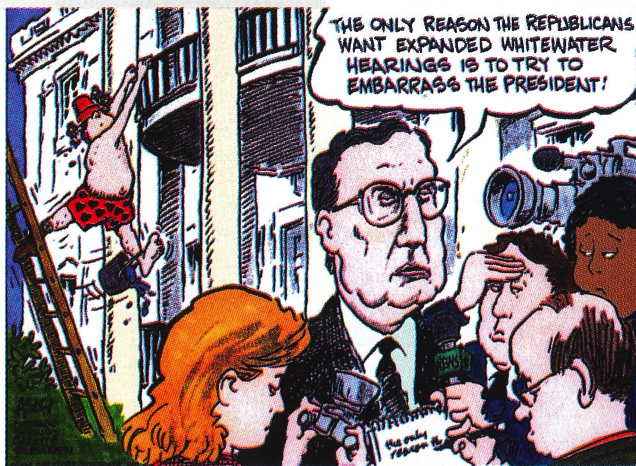
WANTED

TO

KNOW

ABOUT

WHITEWATER\*



regarding the Clintons' connection to Whitewater, and what is now known?

- Did the Clintons invest Hillary's cattle future trading profits in Whitewater?
- How did Hillary Clinton make a 10,000-percent profit in commodities trading?
- Were Hillary's cattle future trading profits legal?
- Did Hillary "straddle" her cattle futures trades?
- Why did Hillary change her story so often regarding where, when, and how she traded cattle futures?
- Did Hillary do all the trading herself? Did she consult with James Blair, general counsel for Tyson Foods, Arkansas' largest agribusiness? Did James Blair actually place her trading orders? Which story is now "operative?"

- Where are all the records regarding Hillary's cattle trades?
- Have the Clintons now paid all taxes on their cattle futures trades and Whitewater investments?

- Why wasn't Hillary — known to be detailed-oriented — aware that REFCO, the agent she used to make her cattle futures trades, had been repeatedly disciplined by the Securities and Exchange Commission?

- What happened on June 27, 1979? According to Chicago Mercantile Exchange records, Hillary's broker at REFCO, "Red" Bone, and a colleague exceeded their daily trading limits of 300 contracts. On that day, these two brokers sold "short" 1,443 feeder-cattle contracts. According to court records, two REFCO brokers testified that they covered up block trading, testifying that they were directed to lock themselves in their offices after the market had closed on June 27, 1979, turn back the clocks used to time-stamp trading slips, then create bogus customer-trading orders.

- Did Tyson illegally seek to influence Arkansas agricultural policy during the Clinton years, and illegally seek to benefit the Clintons personally?
- Did Clinton attempt to pressure Arkansas State Troopers into not talking to the media about allegations of marital infidelity?

- In *The Agenda*, Clinton says to his staff, "I want him dead, dead. I want him killed. I want him horsewhipped." To whom is he referring? What's that person's current health status?

- Did powerful friends give the Clintons favorable treatment and open doors not accessible to ordinary Arkansans?

- Did Hillary direct employees of the Rose Law Firm, campaign staffers, or members of the Governor's staff to destroy documents relating to Whitewater, Madison S&L, or Vincent Foster?

- Why are the Democrats

terrified of Whitewater questions?

**\* but couldn't ask**

Some of these questions were raised by *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Times* and other news sources.



Many people say I need to be balanced with equal time. Not so — I AM...

# Equal Time

A sampling of my genius, to be widely quoted and disseminated

## TOWEL HEIST

Here's the memo distributed to the members of the White House staff who stayed on the *USS George Washington* during the President's trip to Normandy:

The executive officer of the *USS George Washington* has relayed that a number of items were removed from state-rooms on the ship during the White House visit. The following items are unaccounted for [in other

words, filched]:

13	Blue towels with GW insignia	\$11.00 each
4	GW bathrobes with insignia	35.00 each
12	Plain white bathrobes	15.00 each
55	White towels	1.80 each

As you know, the ship and the U.S. Navy served as our gracious hosts during this trip. They provided these items for our use, not as souvenirs. They have requested reimbursement of \$562 from the White House for the above items.

How could this happen? Since Dan Rostenkowski wasn't on the ship, there are only two possibilities. One, the White House staff members are not mature travelers. They thought it was ok to take the stuff (which a Clinton aide later paid for). Or, two, we have a bunch of kleptomaniacs in the White House. If it's the latter, what we need is a good liberal solution. Based upon our compassion, we've got to find out if they have attention deficit disorder. Or were abused as children. If that doesn't work, maybe we oughta send the worst offenders to play midnight basketball!

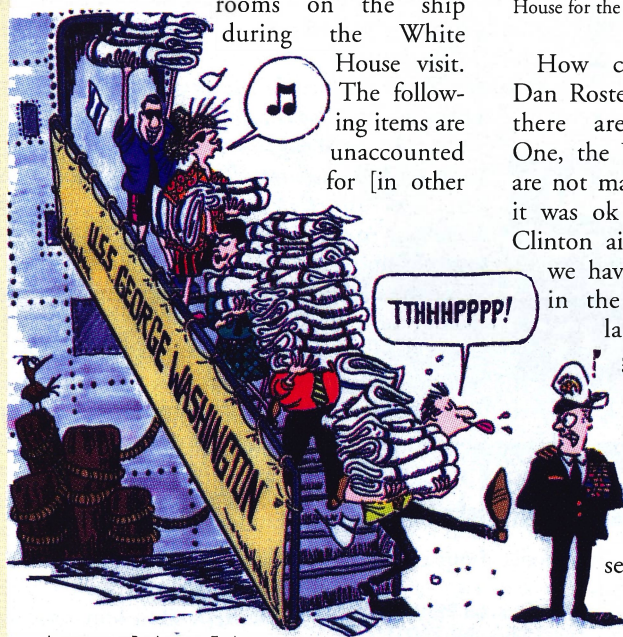


ILLUSTRATION BY BOB LANG FOR THE LIMBAUGH LETTER

## QUEENS DREAM

Last year I pointed out a story of major significance: black families in Queens, NY had achieved economic parity with whites. Well, now there's an even bigger story. According to a new analysis of the 1990 census conducted for *The New York Times*, the median income of blacks living in Queens has surpassed that of whites. The median income for all black households in Queens was \$34,300, compared to \$34,000 for whites. For black married couples born in America, the median income was \$50,000 — surpassing the income of white married couples. A few more amazing things in this report:

- This success came in the 80s — you remember, “the decade of greed.”
- Black entrepreneurs started their own businesses in record numbers and prospered. Just like others who take the risk of business ownership.
- Family structure is crucial. Married couples, working together, give families the best chance to succeed ... despite what Murphy Brown says.

A major victory. Not just because blacks are succeeding — but because it proves that the American dream is alive for everyone who truly wants to access opportunity.

## WHITE HOUSE MESS

The recent shake-up at the White House had the Beltway crowd abuzz. I say: Big deal! “Mack” McLarty is kicked upstairs — with Leon Panetta now chief of staff. So what? McLarty was only there to handle the cover-ups anyway; he can still do that as “senior advisor.” David Rodham Gergen was bounced over to the State Department, supposedly to help them “communicate” better. But the problem at State has not been communicating a foreign policy. The problem these guys have had all along is that they don't have a foreign policy, or a President who understands the need for one.

## MODERN ART?

Let me warn you: this item might be disturbing.

Back in March, two “artists” gave a performance at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis. Ron Athey, who is HIV-positive, pierced his body with needles, and proceeded to cut designs into his partner's bare back. Athey then blotted his assistant's blood with paper towels and sent the bloodied towels into the audience on a clothesline. Members of the audience panicked, according to newspaper reports, scrambling to avoid the bloody towels. Who paid for this “art”?

You, the taxpayer ... through the National Endowment for the Arts.

Jane Alexander, NEA chairman, defended the event. “[Athey's] work is a study exploring modern-day martyrdom as it relates to AIDS.”



She complained that newspaper coverage "trivialized what was a moving performance on a very disturbing but important contemporary subject," adding: "These people are taxpayers, too."

Folks, if the artists had advertised that blood-soaked towels were going to be sent into the audience, nobody would have shown up. The only way this kind of so-called art can flourish is with government funding — the free market certainly isn't going to support it. And now these artists believe they can get away with just about anything, because they've got their guys in the White House. This isn't art; it's perversion — and the NEA should be held accountable.

### IT'S REAGAN'S FAULT

Alan Brinkley, history professor at Columbia University, uncovered the reason President Clinton's health care and welfare proposals are doomed:

It's Ronald Reagan's fault.

In a *New York Times Sunday Magazine* article titled "Reagan's Revenge," Brinkley argues that the tax cuts in the 1980s left Democrats no other recourse than to commit what he calls "social cannibalism" on their most prized entitlement programs. "The first Administration in nearly 30 years with an expansive view of Government's power to do good," writes Brinkley, "finds itself imprisoned within a fiscal environment that makes it difficult for government to do anything." Brinkley also blames California conservatives in the 1970s for Clinton's troubles. Why? Because they came up with Proposition 13, which set the stage for tax revolts all over the country. The important thing to remember is this: No matter how they try to dress it up, the only policy these guys care about is bigger government. With you footing the bill. So if Reagan's revenge is to stop them ... well, good!

### RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY

Liberal Democrats are hysterical. Beside themselves. Foaming at their collective mouths. And the objective of their hysterical anger is ... Christians. Rep. Vic Fazio of California accused the "radical right" of "secretly taking over state parties and financially dominating campaigns." Fazio also accused religious groups of trying to impose their views on the country by law.

"Secretly," Congressman? Isn't it actually you and your fellow Democrats who seek to camouflage yourselves? In fact, in most places in America today, don't liberals have to convince voters they are not liberals in order to win elections? *Hmmm?*

And Congressman, I don't remember you or your fellow liberals voicing "concern" over the Berrigan brothers, or The Rev. Jesse Jackson, or Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin running the S.D.S. — not to mention The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. — when they entered the political arena. Sounds like what you really fear,

Congressman, is defeat. (Heh heh heh.)

Surgeon General and national embarrassment Dr. Joycelyn Elders, speaking before the Lesbian and Gay Health Alliance, attacked what she termed "the un-Christian religious right." As the crowd applauded wildly, she accused Christians of "selling out our children in the name of religion."

Do these people know so little of our history that they feel comfortable parading their bigotry so proudly? This nation was founded by religious people, who wanted freedom. Nowhere in the Constitution does it say a citizen's religious views disqualify him or her from participating in the democratic process. I'm going to give a little advice to you Democrats. I know you're upset because you've lost a bunch of key elections, but this attack on religion will backfire. You're not attacking people's politics, but their faith. And despite what you must think, that kind of intolerance is not shared by most Americans.

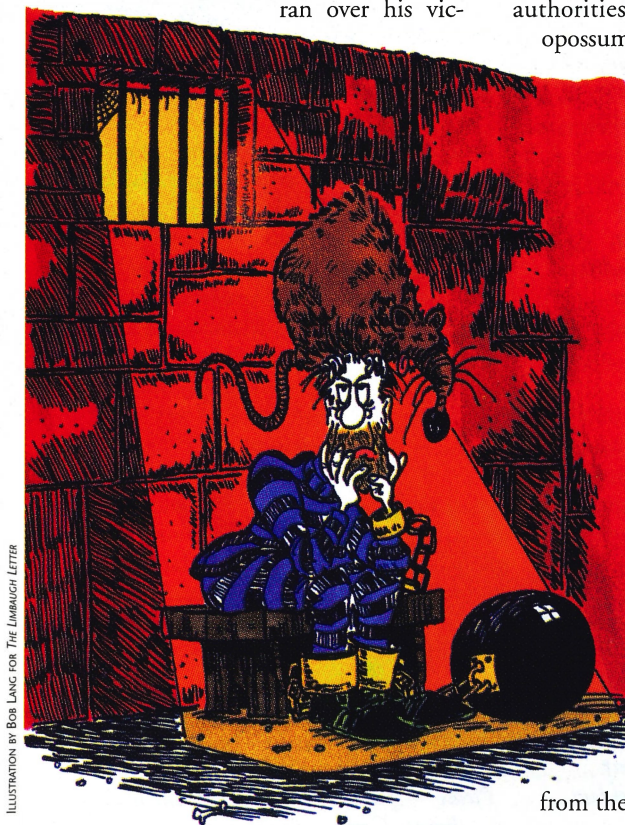
### MARSUPIAL TO NUTS

Steven Garity of Tumwater, Washington was in deep trouble. He was the defendant in a highly publicized multiple murder case. The prosecution alleged that Garity, in full command of his senses, deliberately swerved his automobile and

ran over his vic-

tims. The police officer who caught up with Garity reported that his first words to her were: "I'm guilty. I hit a possum." Actually, folks, Garity didn't hit one possum. He hit a family of possums; eight of them. He maintained he ran over the animals by accident. But town authorities had determined that the opossum family murder was going to a full jury trial. Remember, folks, Washington is tough on crime — the first state to pass the "three strikes and you're in" law. So if convicted, would Garity have been considered an eight-time loser?

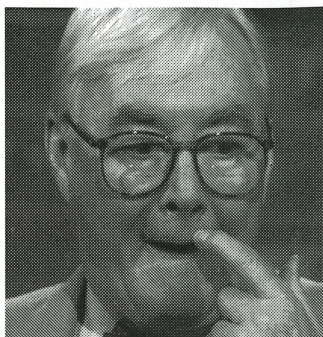
Garity's lawyer, Ken Valez, got the case of alleged opossum homicide laughed out of court. The attorney asked for police reports, all relevant diagrams, witness statements, and "if possible a complete report of the marsupial's last words." But the prosecutor wasn't laughing. He had thrown the book at Garity, and the "gross misdemeanor" charges could have gotten him a \$5000 fine and a year in jail. If only real criminals got this kind of treatment from the criminal justice system.



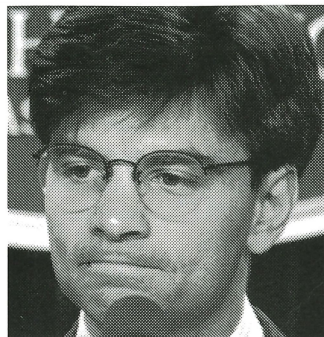


# Stupid Quotes

Folks, I don't make this stuff up



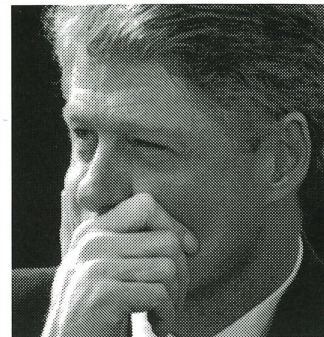
Pat Moynihan



George Stephanopoulos



Patricia Ireland



Bill Clinton

"I don't suppose there's any public figure that's ever been subject to more violent personal attacks than I have, at least in modern history, anybody who's been president."

— BILL CLINTON, IN KMOX RADIO INTERVIEW FROM AIR FORCE ONE

*Obviously forgetting that Jesse Jackson said about Reagan: "He is anti-black, anti-Hispanic, anti-civil rights, anti-human rights, anti-poor, anti-family farmer, anti-youth, anti-public education, anti-woman." Obviously forgetting that Tip O'Neill said about Reagan: "The evil is in the White House.... He's got ice water for blood."*

"It's striking how much more gently Ronald Reagan was treated by the press [than Clinton is] ... He was regarded as untouchable by the press."

— TIME WRITER BARBARA EHRENREICH, IN *THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE*

*Obviously forgetting that Rep. Tony Coelho said about Reagan: "Well, he didn't quite drool," in response to a reporter asking if Reagan's debate performance seemed doddering.*

"The press is a lot harder on Clinton than it ever was on Reagan. The Clintonites feel this way [and] they're right.... They're also right to feel that the political opposition is more poisonous, and more organized, than Reagan ever faced."

— MICHAEL KINSLEY, IN *THE NEW REPUBLIC*

*Obviously forgetting that Geraldine Ferraro said about Reagan: "The president...[calls] himself a good Christian, but I don't for one minute believe it because the policies are so terribly unfair." And obviously forgetting that Tip O'Neill said about Reagan: "It's sinful that this man is president of the United States."*

"Millions of people wouldn't risk death right now if it hadn't been for Reagan because he could have made sure that we had the best sex-education system around."

— TIBOR KALMAN, DEFENDING A BENETTON AD DEPICTING RONALD REAGAN AS A VICTIM OF AIDS, AP  
*Ronald Reagan is still the object of more vitriol than Bill Clinton will ever be.*

"First, Don't lie. And second, Don't cover up."

— GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS, WHEN ASKED WHAT HIS ADVICE WOULD BE TO A YOUNG POLITICIAN, IN *THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE*  
*And third, Don't shill for someone who does.*

"I don't know what he said and I don't know that you know what he said. I don't know what he said and I don't know that you know what he said. All I know is what I said, and what I said is the policy of the United States of America."

— BILL CLINTON, UPON HEARING REPORTS OF JIMMY CARTER'S COMMENTS TO NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT KIM IL-SUNG, QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON TIMES*

*Noted.*

"I had some reservations about whether I was willing to say this on television, but I guess I'll say it. My recommendation for what to do about Korea is to invade Haiti. We'll win in Haiti. The Koreans might think that we're tough, and Bill Clinton needs to look tough."

— NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO'S NINA TOTENBERG ON "INSIDE WASHINGTON," QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON TIMES*  
*Please — put her on the next plane with Jimmy Carter, wherever it's going.*

"Ask him on. He'll come on, you know, if you have a basketball hoop or something like that."

— SEN. PAT MOYNIHAN ON NBC'S "MEET THE PRESS," IN RESPONSE TO TIM RUSSERT'S QUESTION ABOUT HOW CLINTON DEFINED UNIVERSAL COVERAGE, QUOTED IN *THE WASHINGTON TIMES*

*Ever get the feeling that Sen. Moynihan isn't exactly enamored with the Clinton Administration?*

"If I were going into combat, I would prefer to have Martina Navratilova at my side than Robert Reich."

— PATRICIA IRELAND, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN, QUOTED IN *THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE*

*No kidding! I'd love to read the "Dear John" letter she'd write home to her husband.*

"I'm saying I have a lot of people ... who work for me and work for the government that are my personal friends. In Chicago, we have a very unusual association with the people who work for us; I mean they're our friends as well."

— DAN ROSTENKOWSKI, ON CBS' "FACE THE NATION"  
*It's a beautiful thing.*

"A good employee never questions anyone anyway."

— ANTHONY RAMIREZ, QUOTED IN *NEWSWEEK*, ON BEING EMPLOYED BY ROSTENKOWSKI'S OFFICE FOR NINE YEARS AS A NO-SHOW WORKER

*Especially in Chicago, where they have a very unusual association with the people who work for them.*



*Whenever President Clinton has dropped in the polls, he's trucked out his famous promise to "scrap the current welfare system and make welfare a second chance, not a way of life" — a cynical political ploy that New York Senator Moynihan once called...*

## BOOB BAIT FOR THE BUBBAS

**S**o here it is. Bill Clinton has finally released his welfare reform plan. But as *The Washington Post* observed: "It will be said, and it's true, that this isn't 'an end to welfare as we know it.'" Right-o. Besides, welfare reform is on "the slow track" while the Administration focuses like a laser beam on health care. No one seriously expects welfare reform to go anywhere in Congress this year — and maybe not even next year. What we have here is a classic example of liberal fraud and deceit.

Folks, Washington has "reformed" welfare six times. And each so-called reform has resulted in a bigger bureaucracy, more bloat, higher costs — and more people on welfare. I have a figure for you: Five trillion. Not million. Not billion. Five *trillion* dollars — \$5,000,000,000,000. That's how much you and I have spent on welfare since Lyndon Johnson launched the "War on Poverty" in 1965. What do we have to show for it? Rampant illegitimacy, crime, societal decay. You're sick of it. I'm sick of it. Everyone's sick of shoveling hard-earned money into the maws of the current welfare system. So in rides the Man from Hope to fix the problem. Yes, Bill Clinton promised during the 1992 campaign to "end welfare as we know it." But, of course, Candidate Clinton seems never to have met President Clinton (maybe we should arrange a reunion of the two on "Oprah.")

"The president is absolutely determined not to just tinker around the margins of this issue, but to effect fundamental change," said William Galston, a top White House domestic policy aide last December. Liberal Democrats worried that Clinton might really gut their favorite programs. Republicans worried that Clinton might actually fulfill one of his key campaign pledges and steal away the welfare issue. Eighteen months after the election, with Bill Clinton's welfare reform bill finally unveiled, it is clear that neither liberals nor conservatives need have worried. What we have here, folks, is a plan to *save* welfare as we know it:

**FIRST, CLINTON'S PLAN SPENDS, SPENDS, SPENDS.** Shouldn't welfare "reform" cost less? Isn't that the point? Not under the Clinton plan, which the Administration admits will cost \$9.3 billion in additional funds. (*Newsweek* quotes an unnamed aide to the Senate Finance Committee: "It could cost twice or three times as much, depending on how many welfare mothers wind up on government payrolls.") As Rep. Gary Franks (R, CT) sagely observes: "The Congressional Black Caucus has longed for a jobs bill and now President Clinton has given them one." Under the Clinton plan, we get increased government spending on job training, education and day care programs. Have these government programs moved people off the welfare rolls in the past? Noooo. So what do we get? More of the same.

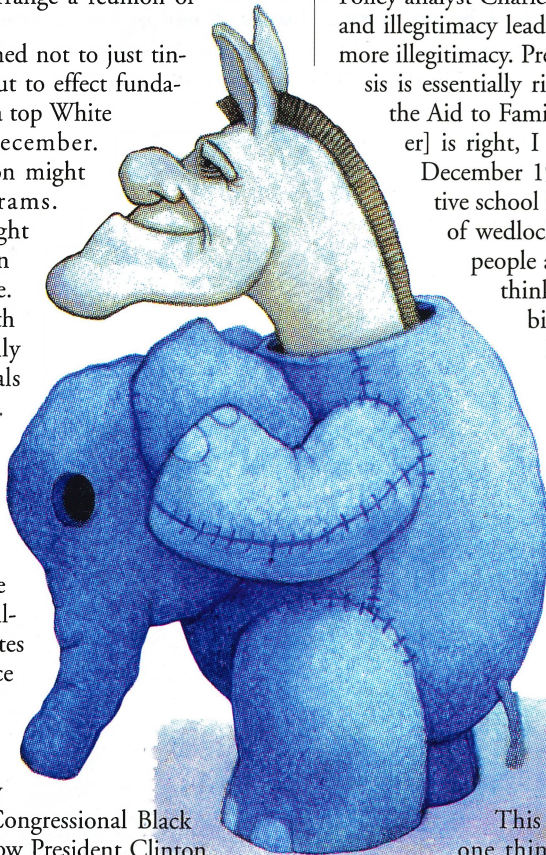
Heritage Foundation welfare specialist Robert Rector points out that none of the 76 different Federal welfare programs and none of the hundreds of state and local programs that currently provide over \$325 billion would be cut by the Clinton plan. So by 1998, total welfare spending will rise to \$500 billion — or \$5000 for every tax-paying family in America. As the crisis in North Korea heats up, keep this in mind: under the Clinton plan we'll be spending twice as much on welfare as on defense.

**SECOND, CLINTON'S PLAN DOES NOT IMPOSE A TIME LIMIT FOR RECEIVING WELFARE BENEFITS.** That's right, no two years and you're out, no five years and you're off, no twenty years and that's it. Forget it. The plan does require some people to participate in Federally-subsidized job programs. But they are never required to get out of the system and stop receiving government benefits. Never. They'll just be given government make-work jobs. And people born before 1972 are exempted from the work programs entirely. Let me remind you that the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), which also went on indefinitely, was such an expensive failure that it was killed in 1982.

**THIRD, CLINTON'S PLAN IGNORES THE REAL CRISIS: ILLEGITIMACY.** Policy analyst Charles Murray says that welfare subsidizes illegitimacy and illegitimacy leads to crime, drug use, high school dropouts, and more illegitimacy. President Clinton *says* he agrees. "I think his analysis is essentially right. Now, whether the prescription [abolishing the Aid to Families and Dependent Children program altogether] is right, I question," Clinton told NBC's Tom Brokaw in December 1993. "I once polled 100 children in an alternative school in Atlanta — many of whom had had babies out of wedlock — and I said, 'If we didn't give any AFDC to people after they had their first child, how many of you think it would reduce the number of out-of-wedlock births?' Over 80 percent of the kids raised their hands. There's no question that that would work. But the question is: Is it morally right?" Apparently, Clinton doesn't think so. So his plan's total approach to this genuine American tragedy comes down to a \$400 million sex-ed program.

**FOURTH, CLINTON'S PLAN INCREASES GOVERNMENT INTRUSION.** The Clinton plan requires states to assign new applicants "national identification numbers." A national "new hire" registry will monitor earnings to recipients' eligibility, and identify parents who switch jobs or cross state lines to avoid paying child support. So in the name of reform, we get massive new government snooping.

Folks, none of this should be surprising. This is Clinton's standard operating procedure: say one thing, do another; talk right, walk left. His plan expands entitlements, creates new government bureaucracy, and pours ever more money into a failed system that perpetuates dependency. This welfare bill is just another chapter in the Clinton Hustle of the American people. ■





# The Agenda *by Bob Woodward*

*Folks, you do not need to buy this book. If you've listened to my show and read my publications, you know it all already. Here's 336 pages of proof that I get the story right weeks, months, even years before anyone else:*

**I SAID:** "The people in this Administration wake up every morning, and ask, 'How can we fool 'em today?'" — on my radio program, repeatedly, since Clinton's inauguration.

**WOODWARD FOUND:** "While Clinton continued to defend the middle-class tax cut publicly, he privately expressed the view to his advisers that it was intellectually dishonest." — *The Agenda*, p. 31

"Boorstin and Sperling knew it was a lie, a vast overestimation, but they had to believe the books." — *The Agenda*, p. 46

"Rivlin repeated herself, this time more tactfully omitting Clinton's name, but rigidly maintaining that 'the campaign' had been 'dishonest' and its statements 'untrue.'" — *The Agenda*, p. 114

"Begala felt fatalistic. There was no way to pretend, not in detail, not in spirit, that the plan before Congress was the Putting People First plan. It was a lie, Begala was saying. Carville agreed with him." — *The Agenda*, p. 190

**I SAID:** "Where is the soul of Bill Clinton?" — on my radio program, repeatedly, during the 1992 presidential campaign.

**WOODWARD FOUND:** "Stephanopoulos couldn't pretend to discern the real Clinton. ... One moment he wanted more costly investments, the next moment he wanted more cuts. Stephanopoulos referred to the conflict as the 'unbridgeable chasm' in Clinton." — *The Agenda*, p. 225

"Carville and Begala still had one fundamental question about Clinton, particularly in their moments of frustration. Once Carville took a piece of paper, drew a little square, and tapped it with his pen. 'Where is the hallowed ground?' he asked. 'Where does he stand? What does he stand for?'" — *The Agenda*, p. 125

**I SAID:** "Dear Hillary: Price Controls Won't Work." — article in *The Limbaugh Letter*, May 1993.

**WOODWARD FOUND:** "Magaziner said they had to consider some form of price controls

## The Agenda



INSIDE THE CLINTON WHITE HOUSE

Bob Woodward

.... He did not like explicit government controls and knew all the arguments against them. He preferred to let competition set costs; but they needed health savings, and for the government to clamp on controls by fiat would be more certain to pull savings in the near future." — *The Agenda*, p. 122

"Alan Blinder said that one of the first messages from the new

Democratic administration should not be to put one-seventh of the American economy under the command and control of the federal government. That would only reinforce the notion that Democrats didn't like free markets." — *The Agenda*, p. 122

**I SAID:** "Achievement must be vilified; the rich must be punished. Instead of holding up successful people as role models and promoting the American Dream that it is still possible to be successful through hard work, the Clinton message was, and still is, to demonize that segment of the population that is allegedly 'benefiting' unfairly. By using these themes, the Democrats hope to lay the groundwork for wealth redistribution, which is ultimately their ticket to power." — *See, I Told You So*, p. 54

**WOODWARD FOUND:** [Hillary] told her staff, they had to find a story to tell, with heroes and villains ... Research showed the enormous profits of drug companies, and Hillary was poised to denounce them. Hillary wanted to find more villains. She ruled out family doctors, since most people liked their physicians; but she had no problem going after specialists, such as plastic surgeons who performed face-lifts and other expensive cosmetic operations. AMA, one of the best financed and most powerful lobbying groups in the country, was an obvious, lush target, but for the very reason of its power would have to get a pass. She decided on the insurance companies." — *The Agenda*, p. 147

"Carville and Begala broadened their complaint ... Clinton was being too soft on the rich. Rubin, the multimillionaire, said

frankly that he hated it when Clinton used the word 'rich.' They should use some other phrase, ... 'And you can't say, we're going to make the rich pay more taxes,' Rubin said ... 'You've got to say, we will ask the well-to-do to pay their share.' Begala shrugged ... [But] the tax system was not voluntary. If they didn't pay their taxes, they would just go to jail. 'Look,' Rubin said impatiently, 'they're running the economy and they make the decisions about the economy. And so if you attack them, you wind up hurting the economy and wind up hurting the president politically ... the language should not demonize them.' 'F--- them,' Begala said." — *The Agenda*, p. 239

"At 10:15 p.m. ... the [budget vote] count went over the top, to 218 ... Clinton grabbed his head with his fingers and thumbs, digging them in like a madman. He whooped and threw his arms around each of his aides ... Clinton said that Carville was the only one of them making top-tax-bracket money, and he would be the one paying the tax increase ... He would gladly pay it all, someone joked. Clinton bent Carville over his big Oval Office desk to pick his pocket ... About 20 of them posed around the desk with Clinton's hand in Carville's back pocket, the populist president fleecing the rich ... Clinton finally released the wallet from Carville's back pocket. Some \$80 in cash was inside. The president took it out and started throwing the \$20 bills around the Oval Office, symbolically redistributing the wealth." — *The Agenda*, p. 302

*My friends, that about says it all, doesn't it?*



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## The Truth About Health Care

continued from page 4

finance it in the world. There is no evidence whatsoever for her belief.

In the history of government financing and cost projections, Washington is spectacularly wrong more often than not. In 1965, for example, when it was instituted, Medicare was projected to cost about \$12 billion by 1990. But when 1990 actually arrived, Medicare cost us \$110 billion. Slightly off, there.

is a perfect example. The vast majority of people are satisfied with what they've got — but it doesn't matter to this bunch holding us hostage. People are going to get something they don't want.

I continually advise that you should ask two questions before you sign on to any so-called health care "reform" plan: One, What is it going to cost me? And two, what am I going to get? These are the precise questions the Clinton Administration has not answered. There's a third question, which goes to the core principle of the American way of life: How will it affect my freedom?

According to the National Taxpayers Union Foundation, Clinton's plan contains 1,494 words that denote government restriction or punishment, including 901 uses of the word *require*, 231 uses of *limit*, 111 instances of *penalty*, and, get this, 7 uses of *prison*. Folks, words mean things. There's one word that rarely comes up: *freedom*.

If, in a democracy, we've got 81 percent satisfied with their health care, 75 percent

satisfied with their insurance, what *is* the crisis? What possible need is there for totally revamping our system? The Clintons have implied that if you don't go for their plan, you're not for reform. Nonsense. An alternative proposal addresses the most serious problems — insurance portability, pre-existing conditions, policy cancellations, etc. The Dole plan brings cost competition into the picture and empowers you, the

consumer, to go out and make the best deal you can when you buy medical coverage. That hasn't existed since the Federal government has been involved.

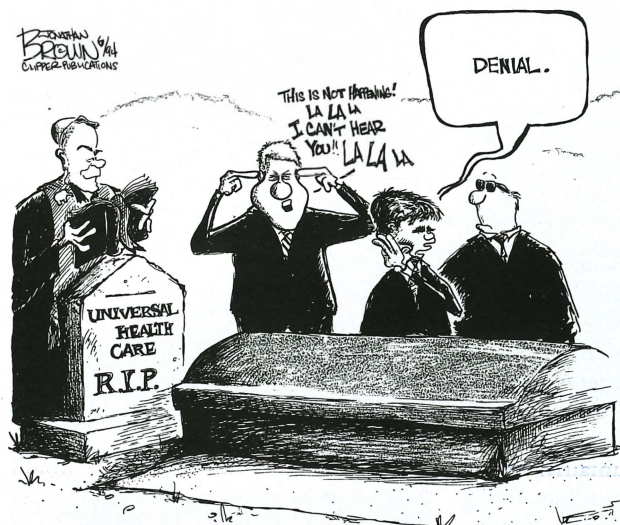
But liberals don't want you to have that kind of choice or that kind of power — because it means you don't need them. Don't be fooled: so-called health care reform is about the expansion of government, with you footing the bill. It's about the steady encroachment on your freedoms. This is not "negativism"; it's the truth.

Which brings me to Clinton's comment that he is "going to be far more aggressive because the American people are entitled to know what's going on good in this country." The left is constantly accusing me of fostering "cynicism" and "pessimism." The truth is, where else do you find someone dedicated to trumpeting America's goodness, celebrating how ordinary people can accomplish extraordinary things, relentlessly proclaiming faith in the individual to become the best he or she can be — as long as there are few governmental shackles around his or her ankles? I submit it is liberals and Democrats who have consistently sought to criticize the institutions and traditions that have made this country great and who make fun of things people hold dear. I defend them. I encourage people to hold on to those traditions with hope and optimism and good cheer.

As such, I look at this health care battle in a positive light. Americans have been given a clear choice: between dependence and independence; between compulsion and liberty; between restriction and autonomy; between government control and private control; between coercion and freedom. I know what we will choose.

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Despite what Mrs. Clinton says, she is not just interested in *financing* health care. She is interested in *managing* it. There is even less reason to be optimistic that the government could ever succeed at that. What are they doing well now? If the answer is, Not much, why on *earth* would we even think of giving them this enormous new assignment that affects us all so personally?

There is absolutely no reason why the government should get involved in health care when 81 percent of the people, according to a recent NBC poll, are satisfied. The poll also showed that 75 percent of you are satisfied with your insurance. How can this be? The insurance companies have been so demonized by Mrs. Clinton that after a year and a half I thought they'd be the most despised organizations in America.

You wonder why I call this Administration "America Held Hostage"? This



# The Commandments

According to

## The Religious Left

- I Thou shalt have no other God except thyself; after all, it's thy self-esteem that counts. If thou doth not love thee, who will?
- II Thou shalt not make any graven images out of any substances which cannot be recycled.
- III Thou shalt not take the name of liberals in criticism, including feminists, racial minorities, or any person who thinks he is a victim of America.
- IV Remember the anniversaries of *Roe v. Wade* and Anita Hill's testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, and keep them holy.
- V Honor thy mother. If she's dysfunctional, it's thy father's fault.
- VI Thou shalt not kill. With these exceptions: life forms under the second trimester, and those opting for medically assisted suicides.
- VII Thou shalt not commit adultery. Unless thou aspiest to high political office, useth a condom, or thou cannot help it.
- VIII Thou shalt not steal. Unless thou art disadvantaged or upset with a jury verdict.
- IX Thou shalt not bear false witness. Unless thou art discussing the history of the 1980s, art campaigning, or can afford good legal counsel in the event thou art discovered — and can ask the American people to pay thy legal bills.
- X Thou shalt not covet. Unless thou art the victim of gender-related oppression or institutional racism, or art still angry with Reagan's tax cuts.
- XI Always hide the real truth about thyself.
- XII Never admit who or what thou really art when campaigning for office.
- XIII Always blame someone else for what thou doest — even so far as to blame the entire society.
- XIV Thou shalt oppose all punishment — except when conservative Republicans or religious right people criticize thee.